

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 1-12, 22 and 25-26 will be pending, of which claims 1 and 25 are independent.

As stated in the Advisory Action mailed November 13, 2003, the remaining pending claims are allowable. As all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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